

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-13 are now present in this application. Claim 1 is independent. Claims 3, 4, 9 and 11 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. § 119

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

Drawings

Applicants acknowledge the formal drawings have been accepted.

Specification Amendments

Applicants have amended the specification to correct a minor informality.

Objection to the Specification

Claims 3, 4 and 11 have been amended to address the Examiner's objections. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/750,872
Amendment dated
Reply to Office Action of July 11, 2005

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 1, 2 and 5-10 are allowed.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in this application.

Further, it is respectfully believed that claims 3 and 4 and 11-13 are also allowable as they had been amended to address the objection to the specification.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau, Registration No. 42,325, at (703) 205-8072.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/750,872
Amendment dated
Reply to Office Action of July 11, 2005

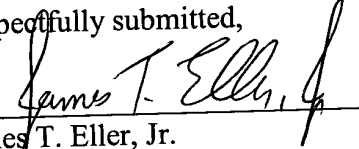
Docket No.: 3449-0291P

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: 9/12/05

Respectfully submitted,

By


James T. Eller, Jr.

Registration No.: 39,538

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Rd

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant